

# New Bedford Neighborhoods and Schools Air Quality

## NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOMES

### Hazards

- ☐ Contagious airborne pathogens that cause disease, disability, and death, including but not limited to: SARS-CoV-2, influenza, measles, TB
- ☐ Particulate from wildfire smoke drift
- ☐ High-traffic road exhaust and tire particulate
- ☐ Cars idling at school drop-off and pickup
- ☐ Fumes from boat traffic and harbor activity
- ☐ CO2 buildup from breathing and failure to bring in fresh air
- ☐ Increased incidence of illness deriving from air quality hazards leads to increased incidence of long-term effects on health, which in turn increases the potential for higher healthcare costs, meaning adverse impacts on financial stability and higher taxes

### Suggestions for improvements

- ☐ Establishment of bad AQ relief centers modeled on city cooling / warming centers; public buildings which have implemented /upgraded highest-standard ventilation and filtration systems
- ☐ City increases awareness by allowing public access to recently installed outdoor air quality monitors
- ☐ City ensures increased capacity for public transit
- ☐ City implements resident parking sticker program with new paid parking city-wide
- ☐ City builds out biking infrastructure including secure bike parking and charging
- ☐ New parking standards to include required safe and secure bicycle parking for new commercial builds and apartments
- ☐ Require corporations within the city with large parking lots to convert percentage to bicycle parking
- ☐ New Bedford becomes a “blue bike” hub just like Boston
- ☐ City establishes Clean Air Department

## Sources

### EPA

- AIR CLEANING FOR CONTAGIOUS PATHOGENS <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/air-cleaners-hvac-filters-and-coronavirus-covid-19>
- SMOKE PARTICULATE <https://www.airnow.gov/wildfires/when-smoke-is-in-the-air/>
- SMOKE FACT SHEET (PDF) <https://www.airnow.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/reduce-your-smoke-exposure.pdf>
- AIRNOW LIVE MAP <https://www.airnow.gov/>

### CDC

- DIY METHOD AIR CLEANER <https://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2023/02/03/diy-filtration/>
- WILDFIRE SMOKE <https://www.cdc.gov/wildfires/safety/how-to-safely-stay-safe-during-a-wildfire.html>

### DIY AIR CLEANER CLEARINGHOUSE

- <https://cleanaircrew.org/box-fan-filters/>

### PURPLEAIR LIVE MAP

- <https://map.purpleair.com>

### AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

- AQI EXPLAINED <https://www.lung.org/clean-air/outdoors/air-quality-index>

### MUNICIPAL MICROMOBILITY

- PROVIDENCE <https://www.providenceri.gov/planning/e-scooter-share-pilot-program/>
- BOSTON AREA <https://bluebikes.com/>

Ambient carbon dioxide concentration correlates with SARS-CoV-2 aerostability and infection risk

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-024-47777-5>